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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:  
FRANCISCUS BERNARDUS MARIA VAN  
BILSEN

Confirmation Number: 4408

Application No.: 10/665,404

Group Art Unit: 2878

Filed: September 22, 2003

Examiner: John R. Lee

Title: ALIGNMENT SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR LITHOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Notice of Allowability dated September 21, 2007, the Examiner has set forth "Reasons for Allowance". Applicants respectfully traverse these Reasons. Specifically, it is submitted that the subject matter of the allowed claims is patentable for their respective recitations of claimed combinations as a whole. That is, the patentability of the claims rests on the combination of recited elements and limitations. As such, Applicants submit that no one element or limitation in particular should be deemed to impart or be required for patentability of the claims. Furthermore, Applicants also submit that the dependent claims are allowable not only for their dependence on the allowed independent claims, but also for the additional subject matter recited in each of those dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

Guillermo E. Baeza  
Reg. No. 35056  
Tel. No. 703.770.7710  
Fax No. 703.770.7901

Date: December 21, 2007  
P.O. Box 10500  
McLean, VA 22102  
(703) 770-7900